MITCHELL, Charles Hamilton October '18 - March 1919 (001)

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October 25th, 1918

Lt.-Colonel C. H. Mitchell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Intelligence Department,
G.H.Q.,
E.E.F., Italy.

Dear Colonel Mitchell:

I have now settled down to work and have been very busy since my return, but I am thankful to have had the experience I had overseas and to be home again safe and sound. It was indeed most fortunate for me that my steamer was delayed, for although my late arrival did congest matters to a certain extent, the meeting with you and accomplishing several other purposes during my last week in England has far more than compensated for any inconvenience.

I see from this morning's paper that our friends in Italy have decided after all to make a move. Better late than never. From the rapid way in which events have transpired since I saw you I should judge that we may hope to have you back for the beginning of next session, but in the meantime there are many matters that are engaging our earnest attention, and the Board of Governors agree thoroughly with my suggestion that if possible you should come out in January and discuss with us for even a fortnight general principles and also details as to the Faculty. You told me that transportation would probably be provided. The other expenses will be met by the Governors. I hope that you will find it possible to come.

I have seen your father and brother since coming back, and have loaned them your large photographs of the Italian front, and have given your father one of those two photographs. He was very much delighted with what I told him. It was very refreshing to me to see the keenness of the old gentleman.

At present I am very busy and will ask you to pardon a longer letter at this time. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

November 18th, 1918

Lt.-Colonel C. H. Mitchell, C.M.G., D.S.O.,

Intelligence Department,

G.H.Q.,

B.E.F., Italy.

My dear Colonel Mitchell:

My attention has just been drawn to the fact that the Institute of Civil Engineers of London England recognises the degree in Engineering of McGill University in lieu of the examination held by the Institute for its membership. This is the only Canadian University to which this privilege is given. Could you take steps before you leave London to secure recognition for our Faculty of Applied Science ? They would probably do for you what they might not do for anybody else.

Now that fighting is over I hope it will be possible for you to come out in January. We ought to have you with us before very long in view of arrangements for next winter.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

purpose for estimates &c.
though I am not sure as to
the time you said. It might
do to discuss building pro-
gramme then would be in
time before the close of the
session at the Admiralty.

In any case it may now
be regarded as certain that
I will be available to take
up the appointment of Dean
at the coming session (July
1- 1919) and I will make my
plans accordingly.

I will hurry to get this off
to you (by King's messengers) with
the description of Rome &
my recent experiences for a Cabi
Letter. In the meantime I wish
you and Katy Falconer the best
Christmas Wishes Yours ever
Chamberlain

Grand Italy
November 28

My dear Sir Robert

I have just returned
from a week's leave in Rome &
find your letter of Oct 25. I am
glad you got home without incident
and not too late to be inconven-
ienced by the delay in England.
Yes it was a good fortune that
enabled us to have those two good
days together.

As to January and the scheme to
have me go over to Canada on a
short trip I hardly know what to
say and I no doubt you too see
how it is all modified by the
present situation which has come
about so suddenly and precip
itated so many arrangements.
At the present writing I can see
nothing definite as to our future

here as between the two extremes of staying on indefinitely for some months or of breaking up very soon & going to England. Not even the C. in C. can tell that yet. If the former were certain then it might be worth while to consider going over to Canada. My own idea however is that we will go to England in say a few weeks & may or may not be employed as staff officers, according to the requirements existing but at least that would not be for long. Consequently I should be inclined to think that I might reasonably expect to get back to Canada under normal conditions say some time not later than ~~say~~ April and from my recollection from talk that time might serve the

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Nov. 29-18

My dear Sir Robert

I send the typed thing I spoke of yesterday & a couple of photographs as Christmas remembrances - I may have already given you one.

You will be interested to know that last night I was informed that I was the recipient of still another decoration - this time the Italian "Croce di Guerra" - for the recent battle.

Yours ever

Churchill

G.H.Q., British Forces in Italy,
January 18th, 1919.

PARTICULARS OF SERVICE.

Lieut-Colonel C. H. MITCHELL, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

(1st Central Ontario Regt., Canadian Overseas Forces).
General Staff (Intelligence) - Seconded for Imperial Service.

Appointments.

General Staff Officer, 3rd Grade, 1st Canadian Division.	September 22nd 1914. (Sailed from Canada).
General Staff Officer, 2nd Grade Canadian Army Corps.	September 13th, 1915. (On formation of Corps).
General Staff Officer, 1st Grade (I) Second Army, France.	October 12th, 1916, (Seconded to Imperial Service).
General Staff Officer, 1st Grade (I) General Headquarters, British Forces in Italy.	November 10th, 1917 (On despatch of Force to Italy). Until Jan. 18th, 1919, when G.H.Q. disbanded.

Honours and Rewards.

Distinguished Service Order	June, 1916.
Companion St. Michael and St.George	June, 1917.
Companion of the Bath	June, 1918.

Legion of Honour, Officer (FRANCE)	Februaru, 1916.
Order of Leopold, Officer (BELGIUM)	June, 1917.
Croix de Guerre, (BELGIUM)	January, 1918.
Crown of Italy, Officer (ITALY)	March, 1918.
Croce di Guerra (ITALY)	December, 1918.

Mentions in Despatches:-	January 1916.
	May 1916.
	May 1917.
	December 1917.
	May 1918.
	December 1918.

Engaged in Operations.

1st Canadian Division, France. February 9th to September 12th, 1915.

In Line - NEUVE CHAPELLE to BOIS GRENIER - March 1915.
Second Battle of YPRES - April 22nd - May 4th, 1915.
Battle of FESTUBERT - May 19th-28th, 1915.
Battle of GIVENCHY - June 15th-16th 1915.
In Line - PLOEGSSTEERT TO WULVERGHEM - June to September, 1915.

Canadian Army Corps. September 13th 1915 to October 11th 1916.

In Line - PLOEGSSTEERT to ST. ELOI - September 1915 to March 1916.
In Line - St. ELOI to HOOGE - April to August 1916.
Battle of ST. ELOI - April 6th-7th, 1916.
Battle of OBSERVATORY RIDGE - June 2nd-13th, 1916.
Battle of the SOMME 1916:-
COURCELETTE - September 15th.
SCHWABEN REDOUBT and HESSIAN TRENCH - September 26th.
REGINA TRENCH - October 8th.

Second

Second(Imperial)Army. October 12th 1916 to 10th November 1917.

Line - NEUVE CHAPELLE to BOESINGHE (YPRES) - October 1916 to June 1917
Line - FRELINGHIEN (LYS) to HOOGE - June to August 1917.
Line - FRELINGHIEN (LYS) to ZONNEBEKE - September to October 1917.
Line - FRELINGHIEN (LYS) to PASSCHENDAELE - October to November 1917
Battle of MESSINES - June 7th, 1917.
Third battle of YPRES - July 31st, 1917.
Battle of FLANDERS:-

MENIN ROAD	-	September 20th, 1917.
POLYGON WOOD	-	September 26th, 1917.
BROODSEINDE	-	October 4th, 1917.
PASSCHENDAELE (5)		October 12th, 1917.
		October 26th, 1917.
		October 30th, 1917.
		November 6th, 1917.
		November 10th, 1917.

British Forces in Italy (G.H.Q). November 10th 1917 to Jan.18th, 1919.

In Line on PIAVE - MONTELLO - November 1917 to March 1918.
In Line on ASIAGO PLATEAU - April to September 1918.
Battle of ASIAGO - Austrian "Offensive" - June 15th 1918.
In Line on PIAVE (GRAVE DI PAPADOPOLI) October - November, 1918.
Battle of VITTORIO - VENETO (PIAVE and
TAGLIAMENTO RIVERS) - October to Armistice
November 4th, 1918.

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Chillingworth
Torquay Jany 27

My dear Sir Robert

I am enabling you to say that I cannot get home till May and that if you think situation warrants, it would be useful if you sent someone familiar with the situation over here in February to talk over the building programme etc. If you still hold the same views as when we talked last September we could do the rest of the programme by getting various general principles & some of the details settled. I have no idea whom you might send under the circumstances but suggest wright only because I presumed he would be familiar with the entire situation. However it may be I can take back with me any ideas on paper to such extent that work can proceed with more confidence.

I returned from Italy a few days ago and after a couple of days in London I

Came on down here to my wife when I am going to have a portuguese real rest. After that - February March and perhaps into April I am wanted at the War Office in connection with Italian and Balkan work and the arrangements I have secured with the Canadian Authorities are that I can sometimes be in London early in May.

This letter is sent off hurriedly to Catch the mail via Newyork and I will follow it with a longer one touching on the various things we have been corresponding about.

I will be glad if you can introduce me as soon as possible to Editors / publishers in Birmingham, Leeds, London Glasgow or of which we spoke.

Yours sincerely.

Churchill

Torquay S. Devon
January 29th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer
President. The University of Toronto
Toronto Canada.

My dear Sir Robert -

The time has now come when I can say more definitely when I may be expected back in Canada and this will more readily enable you to make plans with regard to the Faculty of Applied Science.

As I wrote you yesterday my arrangements now are to remain here in England until it is time to go home to Canada; I will no longer be required in Italy. After several weeks leave I will be employed at the War office until the end of march. During April - with some more leave, I hope to go about England seeing various universities and educational institutions which may be of use to us in the future science work at Toronto. This will bring me home I hope about the middle of May or at any rate before the session closes at the University.

In view of this the Board of Governors may now proceed with whatever business arrangements are necessary to provide for my taking up the appointment of Dean as from July 1st. I presume one of

the first things for me to do is to resign from the Board and I will be guided by you as to when and how I should do this.

As to the conditions of the appointment I presume that it is not necessary to repeat what was originally proposed when I met you in December 1916. The principal feature however was that I should be allowed to retain my private practice, devoting not more than a third of my time to it during the University Sessions but being free of course during the holiday periods to give such time as I may desire. As to the salary, there was never a definite amount stated but as I think you spoke in September of the figure of $5000 I presume it will be fixed at least at that; one does not feel too certain about the extent of the greatly increased cost of living after the war or of the probable taxation which we all will have to face.

I am already giving some thought to the policy which may be followed in this Faculty after the war along the lines which we discussed in London in September; I naturally feel

however that I am still a long way away and not sufficiently in touch to get very far in outlining a progressive policy. I do want you to be assured however that what I am going to aim at is as close a coordination as possible with the scientific needs of the country for the period of development that we are undoubtedly entering upon while at the same time extending the broader side of the scientific education somewhat more toward the humanities because I have lately realised that this broader education as compared with that of the purely professional is much to be desired at this stage in the development of the scientific side of Canadian education. I have expressed these views to you before and indeed they are not new.

I have been thinking further too about the question of accomodation for the Faculty which we also discussed and am more than ever convinced that the new buildings should be planned with initial provision for a thousand students but with facilities for extension to an ultimate of fifteen hundred. It is difficult to estimate the probable needs during the reconstruction period say for the four years following the war but

it may be anticipated that large numbers, even if abnormal, will come in, in some years, many reappearing to complete their courses and these too, during a building and transitional period when accomodation difficulties may be great.

In the matter of building expenditure I know that you have in mind a programme which is designed to adequately meet the expected demands and from what I recollect in our talk of September I take it that a liberal provision is in contemplation. I sincerely hope this can be fulfilled for as you know this Faculty has sadly suffered in the past in this respect.

While I do not know the real situation with regard to staff I cannot help but feel that a special effort will be required not only in the matter of the personnel itself, to retain the old or secure new members, but in the matter of salaries because of the greatly increased cost of living – a question with which you are no doubt less struggling in all Faculties. I hope that in this Faculty in particular wherein so much depends on its successful coordination with the commercial and industrial life of the country there will be no hesitation to provide the appropriate salaries which the situation may warrant.

As you know it is my intention to go about Great Britain before I return to Canada to learn what I can that may be useful in connection with our own problems. I am not so sure however that it is a very opportune time as I find that many Universities are also in a transitional stage endeavoring to reconstruct after the war and to meet their various problems from a new standpoint like ourselves. I have no doubt however that time spent on these visits will be fully worth while especially in such Universities as London, Birmingham, Leeds and Glasgow where Applied Science education has been highly developed before the war.

With my best regards and wishes, I remain,

Yours very sincerely

C. H. Mitchell.

Address:-
Bank of Montreal
Waterloo Place
London S.W.

January 26th, 1915

Colonel C. G. Mitchell, I.A.S., D.A.A.,

Army Canadian Area of Control,

Montreal Station, Montreal, Canada.

My dear Colonel Mitchell:

exciting issues recently by the Carnegie Foundation. I am sure that you will be interested in it. It looks to us as though some of the eye of our developments might have much for us. With many regards to Mrs. Mitchell and yourself,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

WAR OFFICE

March 8th 1919

My dear Sir Robert.

Your two letters arrive in due course. I am sorry that your answering cable failed to reach me in Torquay — this failure to find me must have been due to gross stupidity as I had taken all precautions to give them my address anticipating the answer — I remained in Torquay until Feby 20th.

I have now been here at the war office ten days and progressing with my work under favorable circumstances. So far as I can now see there will be no change in my arrangements to get home in May. I will run away this week end up to Birmingham for my first visit to that university and will present your letter to Sir Oliver Lodge.

I quite understand the situation about the building programme and am glad the immediate work is going on without delay as it is much needed. I appreciate your action in not sending anyone over under the circumstances and am grateful for your view as to the difficulties which might arise had you done so — and I quite agree.

Canadian papers have now reached me giving the announcement to which you referred in your letter. This a turning point in the history of the University with so many changes taking place. I am indeed grateful to you and the Board for the way in which the matters have been put with reference to myself – then I fear have been given undue prominence. By the way it would be well for you to have a revised memo of my war services for file and I send you herein a similar one to that I gave you previously but brought up to date.

With reference to the Institution of Civil Engineers I am getting into touch with them on the subject and have no doubt that a suitable arrangement will be arrived at.

The extension of this term's course into the Summer, of which I have learned, is I think a splendid idea and although it entails very heavy work on the Staff – who will probably all be fired out when I retire – it will fully repay the effort and solve many of the difficulties which we proceed last September

Yours Ever
Chancellor

Address reply to
Room 9 Woolwich Arsenal S.E.18

London March 26th

My dear Sir Robert

Your letter of the 4th regarding the situation in Architecture — This is extremely a surprise I am rather sorry to say and I am inclined to think the action of the Ontario Society of Architects is the culmination of a feeling which has existed for sometime. I do not consider however that it is anyone's fault but is rather a condition into which this branch has fallen along with others during the difficult period of the war. I think their criticism as stated in the three faults you mention on the first page of your letter is just and it is for us to meet it fairly by treatment in a large way. Whether the addition of only one new member to the staff will be adequate is a question but I am too far away to discuss it very much. In any case I will set about making enquiries: I wish however you had — or still could, give me an idea of the salary that would be available because after all that is one of the first principles involved; of course I will

take no action with regard to any engagement nor make any promises.

With regard to the second feature — the separation from Engineering so as to give it a broader scope — I am not so sure that a double degree arrangement would secure the effect. I am rather inclined to think this a theory of someone (or more) of the Architects and I fancy I have heard it put forward before. That whole question is however bound up with the general policy you wish to pursue with regard to combined degrees and I have not heard whether it is now in operation in any other instances. I do think however that the course in architecture ought to be very much widened to combine some of the Arts subjects — in fact I fear I may surprise you when we talk on this whole subject as I am wish to apply this principle to some extent to all of the Applied Science courses. Speaking of that you may depend on my best help to overcome the feeling of which you speak as between Applied Science and Arts and it is one of the tasks which I see ahead — but I am quite sanguine.

As to the third suggestion – regarding Town Planning – I would long ago have told you how interested I am in this subject and how anxious I have been to get it incorporated in the work. I had refrained however from raising it as it was only one of many suggestions I have had in mind of like nature but did not think it yet opportune to discuss. I am delighted of course that your views are so well formed on the necessity of adding this subject and had you asked me I should have said get Adams by all means as he is an excellent man – I do hope he can be secured & he ought to come if permitted to continue practice. I would suggest to you that as soon as you decide that a suitable course will be given – whether Adams comes or not – the fact be announced so that prospective students will have due notice. If Adams cannot be secured I feel I am sure get someone over here and at the worst would take some of the work myself for the first year until we could get it properly established. I do not know whether you are aware that I had made a considerable study of the subject

before there was feeling that it is one in which we in Canada as it's critical growing states are vitally interested. The question of where to fit the course in is one for consideration as it lies between Civil Engineering (municipal) and Architecture; I am not inclined however to attach it to the latter.

The discussion of the foregoing leads me to add that I have been thinking a good deal of late about the inclusion of Applied Arts in the courses of the Faculty — this you will remember was one of the questions we discussed at some length last September as an ambition for the Applied Science Faculty in the near future — similar to Leeds etc. This probably too early to think in detail or in large dimensions but if we embark on such a scheme when the time is ready a department might be formed to include four sections such as Graphic Arts, Textiles, Ceramics and Leather — this of course is only to think about and after I get about my land a bit I will have, I hope, a good many ideas to discuss with you

I am still at the war office 10 to 6 each day but will be through in a few weeks. Yours ever

C. H. Reilly

Confidential

1354

War Office,
Whitehall,
S.W.1.

March 8.

Dear Sir Robert

You were several times good enough to enquire about the possibility of any promotion. As I explained the chances were practically impossible the way the situation lay. On two occasions however first when we went to Italy and second last October it was almost accomplished but changes in the force in the former case and the sudden termination of the war in the latter stopped it.

Now with the war over I had quite given up any hope of any promotion but to my great delight the Imperial Authorities (through Gen. Harington) feeling that I ought to have been promoted before whilst under them and not having been able to

do so, have asked the Canadian Authorities to give me promotion to Brigadier General in the Canadian Forces as an appreciation of the Services I performed whilst with the Imperial Forces. I have not heard definitely yet but I understand that the request will be granted — one is never sure of such things however — and I write now so that should the announcement come through you will be advised in advance of the manner in which it came about. In the meantime it is very confidential though should it happen* you may make public the fact that it was at the request of the Imperial Authorities —

Yours Chas

*It may be made yet.

TELEPHONE 290.

RANDOLPH HOTEL,
OXFORD.

Sunday April 27

My dear Sir Robert

This is my second visit to Oxford – my wife is with me this though mrs Stanton has been here for a month enjoying the Spring time.

Tomorrow I shape to make a day of it with the Science and Engineering professors as I have not been able to get in touch with them owing to the Easter vacation. As you know I think, major Wilkinson, my old assistant at both 2nd Army & Italy

(Gso 2) is here now - having given up his postat Etonand is Fellow & Dean of Worcester. One of my other I officers in Italy is also here as an instructor in Natural Sciences (biology &c) Huxley grandson of the Huxley - a most ableFellow.

I think I told you - at last I hope so - that I spent several days at Birmingham last month & had a most profitable time seeing much of interest though of course they too are suffering in the same way as all Universities in the reconstruction process. I was han

TELEPHONE 290.

RANDOLPH HOTEL,
OXFORD.

honored by Sir Oliver Lodge asking me to his home to luncheon and he was most kind in enquiring after Toronto and yourself. I saw the engineering laboratories of course. But not enough shape to gather again.

Next week End I have planned to spend at Cambridge where I am in touch too with the Applied science people.

I am still working at the War Office – it is dragging

out – but should be through now in ten days; the "magnum opus" is getting to large proportions and will approach 200 pages of typed sheets, to say nothing of sketches & maps.

The promotion to Brig. General has come through at last – gazetted on the 24th and announced yesterday morning in the press – and I wired you yesterday to that effect. The conditions under which I have received it are the same as those I described to you in my confidential note

TELEPHONE 290.

RANDOLPH HOTEL,
OXFORD.

of last month – at the request of the Imperial Authorities as an appreciation of services and it is dated October 9th last which is a pleasing feature. (that is the date when Lord Cavan got command of the Italian Army previous to our final offensive.)

I also asked you in my cable to send an Applied Science Calendar – I am sent me one but it apparently went astray en route last month & I have not received it; naturally I would like to study it a bit! Then too I asked

if you could let me know
when convocation will
be as I am anxious to
be informed so that I
can be sure to be home
in time for it – this is
desirable in my selection
of my sailing at the
end of May. I cannot
leave here at least until the
24th as I have engage-
ments up until then.

I find myself thinking
more and more of home
these days – and my work
there. I will be so glad
to get back. Yours ever

Best regards to Lady Falconer
in which my wife joins –

C. H. Mitchell